

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSULATE MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0186

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SHUM, CZ
SUBJECT: APPEALS BY DISSIDENTS TO EUROPEAN CPS AND SOCIAL
DEMOCRATS

1. TWO OF MOST NOTED PRAGUE DISSIDENTS, ZDENEK MLYNAR AND PAVEL
KOHOUT, HAVE SENT APPEALS FOR SUPPORT FOR DISSIDENTS AGAINST
REGIME'S EFFORTS TO SUPPRESS THEM TO, RESPECTIVELY, EUROPEAN
SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS AND SEVERAL WESTERN COMMUNIST PARTIES.
WE UNDERSTAND THAT MLYNAR SENT LETTERS TO AUSTRIAN PREMIER BRUNO
KRIESKY, WILLY BRANDT AND OLOF PALME. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT
HE SENT LETTERS ALSO TO SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS IN OTHER
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COUNTRIES. WE ARE TOLD THAT KOHOUT SENT LETTERS TO ITALIAN,
FRENCH AND WEST GERMAN CPS ASKING THEM TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY
BETWEEN DISSIDENTS AND CPCZ AND HELP DISSIDENTS TO OBTAIN
ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA. PARTY
PRESS ACCUSES KOHOUT OF HAVING REQUESTED WESTERN CPS TO SEND
"GOOD-WILL MISSIONS" TO PRAGUE FOR THIS PURPOSE.

2. COMMENT: APPEALS BY DISSIDENTS TO FOREIGNERS FOR ASSISTANCE ARE A FURTHER ANNOYANCE TO REGIME AS IT CARRIES OUT ITS CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT, INTIMIDATE AND SUPPRESS THE AUTHORS AND SIGNERS OF CHARTER 77. THOSE ADDRESSED TO PCF AND PCI SHOULD BE ESPECIALLY ANNOYING, IN VIEW OF THE VARIOUS VITRIOLIC ATTACKS BY CPCZ JOURNALS IN RECENT MONTHS ON ARTICLES IN L'UNITA AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY PCF LEADERS CRITICIZING SITUATION HERE.

3. WE TEND TO BELIEVE REPORTS CIRCULATING HERE IN THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS THAT, AS PART OF REGIME RETALIATION AGAINST DISSIDENT LEADERS, MLYNER HAS LOST HIS MODEST JOB IN ENTOMOLOGY SECTION OF NATIONAL MUSEUM AND KOHOUT HIS RATHER POSH APARTMENT IN SAME BUILDING AS SWISS CHANCERY ON HRADCANY SQUARE. KOHOUT HAS BEEN ALMOST CONSTANT SUBJECT DURING LAST FEW DAYS OF POISONOUS MEDIA ATTACKS WHICH INCLUDE ACCUSATIONS OF CRIMINAL ANTI-STATE AND ANTI-COMMUNIST ACTIVITY; WE KNOW THAT HE HAS BEEN INTERROGATED SEVERAL TIMES, PERHAPS DAILY, IN LAST TWO WEEKS, BUT NO FORMAL CHARGES HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED AS THIS IS WRITTEN.

4. FOR BELGRADE, BONN, PARIS, ROME, STOCKHOLM, VIENNA:
WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED OF REACTION BY SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND COMMUNIST LEADERS TO EVENTS HERE. WE ARE ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN HOW L'UNITA AND L'HUMANITE ARE HANDLING STORY AND ANY INDICATION OF CP PLANS TO SEND "GOOD-WILL MISSIONS.
BYRNE

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